

Message Text

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E.O. GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: COUNCIL OPERATIONS EXERCISE COMMITTEE MEETING

JANUARY 14, 1975

REF: USNATO 0074 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY.

COUNCIL OPERATIONS EXERCISE COMMITTEE (COEC) CHAIRMAN (MACBRIEN) STATED THAT SYG LUNS INFORMED HIM BY LETTER THAT THE DATES FOR DPC PARTICIPATION IN WINTEX 75 HAD BEEN CHANGED TO MARCH 7 DURING A PRIVATE MEETING OF PERMREPS ON JANUARY 9. A NUMBER OF COEC REPS STATES THAT THEY WERE NOT AWARE THAT A DECISION HAD BEEN MADE AT THE JANUARY 9 MEETING TO CHANGE THE DATES FROM MARCH 9-10 TO MARCH 7. IN VIEW OF THE DIVERGENT INTERPRETATIONS OF THE JANUARY MEETING, CHAIRMAN RECOMMENDED THAT COEC REPS SEEK ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE ON THIS ISSUE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AT A COEC MEETING ON JANUARY 20. END OF SUMMARY.

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COEC CHAIRMAN OPENED DISCUSSION ON WINTEXT 75 BY READING FROM A LETTER ADDRESSED TO HIM FROM SYG LUNS. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS. QUOTE. AT A PRIVATE MEETING OF AMBASSADORS ON THURSDAY, 9 JANUARY, IT WAS AGREED FOR COMPELLING REASONS THAT THE DPC

SHOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE NUCLEAR CONSULTATION PHASE OF WINTEX 75, NOR SHOULD IT PARTICIPATE OVER THE WEEKEND OF 8-9 MARCH. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THE DPC PLAN ON FRIDAY, 7 MARCH, WHICH, IF FEASIBLE, WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE. YOU ARE DIRECTED TO IMPLEMENT THE FOREGOING DECISION. UNQUOTE.

IN REPLY TO THE TEXT OF THE LETTER, UK REP (BEAUMONT) SAID THAT THIS IS NOT HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE OUTCOME OF THE 9 JANUARY MEETING AND HIS AUTHORITIES WERE NOT YET READY TO ACCEPT THIS POSITION OF CHANGING ACTIVE DPC PARTICIPATION FROM 9-10 MARCH TO 7 MARCH. TURKISH REP (SUNGAR) SUPPORTED STATEMENT BY UK REP. FRG REP (BROCKMANN) SAID THAT BONN HAD AGREED TO HIGH LEVEL PARTICIPATION IN WINTEX 75 DURING 9-10 MARCH AND THAT IW WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO CHANGE THE SCOPE OF THE EXERCISE TO ACCOMMODATE NATIONAL PARTICIPATION AND THE TIME FRAME TO MARCH 7. US REP (WITKO) STATED THAT HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE WINTEX 75 DISCUSSION AT THE JANUARY 9 MEETING ALSO REQUIRED CLARIFICATION. NOTING THE DIVERGENT INTERPRETATIONS OF THE JANUARY 9 PRIVATE MEETING OF AMBASSADORS WITH SYG LUNS, CHAIRMAN RECOMMENDED THAT COEC REPS SEEK ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE ON THE ISSUE OF DPC PARTICIPATION ON MARCH 7 VIS-A-VIS DPC PARTICIPATION ON MARCH 9-10. COEC AGREED TO MEET AT 1000 HOURS JANUARY 20 FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THIS ISSUE.

MISSION COMMENT.

AT THE JANUARY 9 MEETING OF PERMREPS (LESS AMBASSADOR DE FREITAS CRUZ OF PORTUGAL), SYG LUNS INFORMED PERMREPS THAT THE PROBLEM OF PORTUGUESE ACCESS TO ATOMAL AND SENSITIVE INFORMATION WOULD BE AVOIDED DURING WINTEX 75 (REFTEL REFERS). IT IS CLEAR THAT SYG LUNS' INTERPRETATION OF THE OUTCOME OF THE JANUARY 9 MEETING DIFFERS IN SOME RESPECT FROM THAT OF THE US, UK, TURKEY AND FRG PERMREPS. MISSION BELIEVES THAT SYG LUNS' ACTIONS, WITH RESPECT TO CHANGING THE DATED OF DPC PARTICIPATION IN WINTEX 75, MAY BE BASED IN PART UPON A DESIRE TO AVOID ALLEGED FURTHER DETERIORATION OF PORTUGUESE-NATO RELATIONS.

END COMMENT

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CONTINUING THE DISCUSSION OF DPC PARTICIPATION IN WINTEX 75 ON MARCH 7, CHAIRMAN ASKED THE IMS REP (GARDNER) TO COMMENT ON THE SCENARIO FOR MARCH 7. GARDNER SAID THAT, ACCORDING TO THE SHAPE SCENARIO, NATO MILITARY FORCES WOULD BE AT REINFORCED ALERT ON MARCH 7, AND MOVING TOWARDS DECLARATION OF GENERAL ALERT ON MARCH 8. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS ON MARCH 7 WOULD INVOLVE REQUESTS FROM THE ACE MOBILE FORCE AND NATO NAVAL FORCES FOR CHANGES IN THE RULES OF ENGAGEMENT. GARDNER SUGGESTED, IN VIEW OF SYG LUNS' LETTER AND SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS BY COEC REPS, THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING THREE OPTIONS FOR DPC PARTICIPATION: (A) THE DPC PLAY AS PREVIOUSLY PLANNED ON MARCH 9-10, (B) THAT DPC PLAY THE GENERAL ALERT PHASE ON MARCH 7-8, OF (THAT THE IS/IMS RESPONSE CELL PLAY SIMULATED SPC/MC ACTIONS DURING THE ENTIRE ACTIVE PHASE

OF WINTEX 75. CHAIRMAN CONCLUDED COEC DISCUSSION ON WINTEX 75 BY STATING THAT "IF THE PLAY ON MARCH 7 IS FINALLY AGREED UPON, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO DETERMINE WHETHER PERMREPS SHOULD MAKE THE NECESSARY DECISIONS REQUIRED WITHOUT REFERRAL TO NATIONAL CAPITALS OR WHETHER GUIDANCE SHOULD BE REQUESTED FROM CAPITALS."

MISSION COMMENT. MISSION ANTICIPATES THAT THE SMALLER COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, AND BELGIUM, WILL AGREE TO DPC PARTICIPATION ON MARCH 7. IN VIEW OF THE SUPPORT BY THE SMALLER COUNTRIES FOR MARCH 7 TIME FRAME, COUPLED WITH SYG LUNS' CONCERN ON PORTUGUESE ACCESS TO ATOMAL INFORMATION, MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT WASHINGTON BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT MARCH 7 FOR DPC PARTICIPATION, IF NECESSARY, TO REACH A COMPROMISE SOLUTION. END OF COMMENT.

ACTION REQUIRED BY JANUARY 17. WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON (A) ACCEPTABILITY OF MARCH 7 FOR ACTIVE DPC PARTICIPATION IN WINTEX 75, AND (B) REQUIREMENT FOR MISSION TO REFER TO WASHINGTON FOR GUIDANCE ON DPC ACTIONS PERTAINING TO WINTEX 75 ON MARCH 7.
BRUCE

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